

03/31/98

66793 U.S. PTO

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PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. 56733
First Inventor or Application Identifier Aasef M. Shafik
Title TOILET ACCESSORY KIT
Express Mail Label No. hand carried

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

1. ☒ * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 12]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
✓ Descriptive title of the invention
- Cross References to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
- Reference to Microfiche Appendix
✓ Background of the invention
✓ Brief Summary of the invention
✓ Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
✓ Detailed Description
✓ Claim(s)
✓ Abstract of the Disclosure
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 4]
4. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 1]
a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)
[Note Box 5 below]
i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting
inventor(s) named in the prior application,
see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a
copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is
considered to be part of the disclosure of the accompanying
application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

6. ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)
7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
(if applicable, all necessary)
a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy
b. ☐ Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

8. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
9. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney
(when there is an assignee)
10. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
11. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☒ Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☐ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
14. ☒ Small Entity Statement(s) ☐ Statement filed in prior application,
(PTO/SB/09-12) Status still proper and desired
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Other:

* NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 14: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY
FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), EXCEPT
IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: _____/_____

Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group / Art Unit: _____

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label or ☒ Correspondence address below
(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

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Signature	<i>Dennis H. Lambert</i>	Date	3/31/98

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FEE TRANSMITTAL

Patent fees are subject to annual revision on October 1.

These are the fees effective October 1, 1997.

Small Entity payments must be supported by a small entity statement, otherwise large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12. See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 and 1.28.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 395.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	Concurrently herewith
First Named Inventor	Aasef M. Shafik
Examiner Name	
Group / Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	56733

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

- 1.
- ☐
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any over payments to:

Deposit Account Number
Deposit Account Name☐ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17☐ Charge the Issue Fee Set in 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 at the Making of the Notice of Allowance

- 2.
- ☒
- Payment Enclosed:

☒ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Other**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 790	201 395	Utility filing fee	395.00
106 330	206 165	Design filing fee	
107 540	207 270	Plant filing fee	
108 790	208 395	Reissue filing fee	
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)			(\$ 395.00)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
20	-20** = 0	X	
3	-3** = 0	X	
Multiple Dependent			

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
103 22	203 11	Claims in excess of 20	
102 82	202 41	Independent claims in excess of 3	
104 270	204 135	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
109 82	209 41	** Reissue independent claims over original patent	
110 22	210 11	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	
SUBTOTAL (2)			(\$ -0-

FEE CALCULATION (continued)**3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 400	216 200	Extension for reply within second month	
117 950	217 475	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,510	218 755	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 2,060	228 1,030	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 310	219 155	Notice of Appeal	
120 310	220 155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 270	221 135	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,320	241 660	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,320	242 660	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 450	243 225	Design issue fee	
144 670	244 335	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126 240	126 240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 790	246 395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
149 790	249 395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
Other fee (specify)			
Other fee (specify)			
* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid			
SUBTOTAL (3)			(\$)

SUBMITTED BY

Typed or Printed Name

Dennis H. Lambert

Signature

Date

3/31/98

Complete (if applicable)

Reg. Number

25017

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TOILET ACCESSORY KIT

Background Of The Invention

Field of the Invention:

This invention relates to bathroom accessories, and more particularly, to a toilet accessory kit containing a plunger, a combined brush and water jet cleaning implement, and storage means for one or more rolls of toilet paper.

5 Prior Art:

Residential and commercial toilets require frequent cleaning, and may also sometimes require clearance of a blockage which prevents proper drainage of water from the toilet. The most frequently used cleaning implement is a brush or similar tool which is used to scrub the toilet bowl. If the drain from the toilet becomes
10 blocked, a plunger is commonly used to alternately produce pressure and suction in the trap to dislodge the obstruction. Both brushes and plungers are available in a variety of shapes and sizes.

Although conventional brushes perform adequately for cleaning the surfaces of the toilet bowl, they are not adapted for cleaning the jets which introduce water
15 into the toilet beneath the rim of the bowl. In fact, these jets are rarely if ever cleaned by the average homeowner and may eventually become partially or completely blocked, thereby impeding the proper performance of the toilet.

A variety of prior art plungers are exemplified in U.S. patents 2066773, 2844826, 3021532, and 4458368. Patent 2066773 discloses a drain and
20 flushing apparatus comprising a cup-shaped member surrounded by a skirt 11. Water may be introduced into the interior of the cup-shaped member to generate pressure and flush out a clogged drain, while the outer skirt 11 serves to seal and hold the device to a sink basin or the like, by acting as a suction cup.

Patent 2844826 discloses a plunger having a specially configured bell 12
25 surrounding an inner guide portion 28. The inner guide portion comprises an

extension from the open end of the bell 12 and serves to fit the device into openings of various size. In use, the guide and locking member 28 serves as the leading edge of the plunger, and is directed into the trap opening where it adjusts to the size and shape of the trap opening. Reciprocating force applied to the handle

5 20 alternately compresses and expands the corrugated wall of the bell 12 and applies pressure or suction forces upon the fluid in the trap opening to clear any obstruction.

Patent 3021532 discloses a plunger having a cup-shaped body portion 10 terminating in an annular flange 16. A flexible skirt 32 is attached to and extends

10 from the bottom edge of the cup. The skirt 32 is adapted to fit various trap openings, and may have an extended position as shown in figure 3, or a retracted position as shown in figure 4. In operation, to remove an obstruction from a trap in a flat sink or the like, the flexible skirt 32 is moved into its retracted position, and the plunger is used conventionally. When the surface is not flat, such as the

15 entrance to a trap in a toilet, the flexible skirt 32 is extended to its outer position and inserted into the trap as far as it will go. The skirt thus adapts to different size trap openings and effects a seal so that upon operation of the handle in the conventional manner, pressure can be generated to dislodge the obstruction.

Patent 4458368 discloses a conventional plunger member 14, with a large

20 circular or oval shaped shield 20 disposed on the plunger handle to protect the user against splashing caused by operation of the plunger.

Patents 4831669 and 5099527 also disclose conventional plunger constructions, and shields which may be applied to the handle to guard against splashing caused by use of the plunger.

25 Patents 5353442 and 5456356 disclose other plunger related tools and accessories. Patent 5353442 describes a rapid action plunger in which a handle and lever system is connected with a plunger-like device for extending and retracting the plunger-like device to remove an obstruction. Patent 5456356 describes a plunger accessory including a housing which encloses the plunger and

30 has an elongate handle portion upon which extra rolls of toilet paper may be stored.

Design patents Des. 161014 and Des. 272874, and patents 2464085, 2539838, 3429474 and 4033650 all disclose toilet brush holders of various styles and constructions.

Design patent Des. 356893 and utility patent 4432451 both disclose devices
 5 for holding and storing toilet plungers. In addition, Des. 356893 discloses use of the device for holding a brush.

None of the patents noted above discloses a tool for cleaning the jets in a toilet bowl, nor do any of them disclose a toilet accessory kit comprising a holder with means for supporting a toilet brush, plunger, and extra rolls of toilet paper,
 10 wherein a cover may be provided to enclose the brush, plunger, and toilet paper, thereby making the accessory kit aesthetically pleasing for storage in a bathroom. In prior art devices, the toilet brush and plunger are either stored in the open and in plain sight in a bathroom, detracting from the decor of the bathroom, or the brush and plunger are stored in a remote location, detracting from the
 15 convenience of use.

Accordingly, there is need for a toilet accessory kit which is aesthetically pleasing so that it may be left in a bathroom without detracting from the decor thereof, and which includes all of the tools normally used in cleaning a toilet, including means for cleaning the jets in the toilet bowl, and a plunger with a
 20 compact integrated splash shield.

Summary Of The Invention

In accordance with the present invention, a toilet accessory kit is provided which includes a toilet cleaning brush and jet cleaning tool, and a plunger, with a cover to make the kit aesthetically pleasing so that it may be conveniently stored
 25 in the bathroom.

The holder comprises a one-piece molded base section with a receptacle in each end of the base member, on opposite sides of the divider, for holding a brush and a plunger, respectively. The receptacles include an upstanding handle attached thereto, and a cup in one end for receiving and holding the brush and jet cleaning
 30 tool, and a cup-shaped recess in the other end for receiving and holding the

plunger. The handle is attached to the base member and is configured to receive and store one or more rolls of toilet paper.

5 The toilet cleaning brush and jet cleaning tool are incorporated into a single implement, and the implement is constructed to facilitate use of both the brush and the jet cleaning tool.

10 The plunger in the kit of the invention includes a central, generally spherically-shaped member with an open lower end that is shaped to fit various size openings, and a depending skirt surrounding the open lower end of the spherically-shaped member to effect a secondary seal against a surface surrounding the drain on which the plunger is being used, and to provide a shield to protect the user against splashing caused by operation of the plunger.

Brief Description Of The Drawings

15 The foregoing, as well as other objects and advantages of the invention, will become apparent from the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Fig. 1 is a top perspective view of the toilet accessory kit of the invention, showing the cover in dot-and-dash lines;

20 Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the kit of figure 1, showing the handle, brush, plunger, cover, and a roll of toilet paper in dot-and-dash lines;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along line 3-3 in figure 2;

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the holder of the kit of the invention, with the brush and plunger removed;

25 Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view of the plunger of the kit of the invention;

Fig. 6 is an end view of the plunger of figure 5, looking into the open end of the plunger;

30 Fig. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the brush and jet cleaning tool of the invention;

Fig. 8 is an enlarged view in side elevation of the jet cleaning instrument used with the tool in figure 7; and

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the handle and divider member used in the holder of the invention.

5 Detailed Description Of The Preferred Embodiments

Referring more specifically to the drawings, a toilet accessory kit according to the invention is indicated generally at **10** in figures 1 and 2. The kit includes a base member **11** having generally an elongate egg-shape in plan view and defining an enlarged substantially circular cavity **12** in one end. A cup-shaped receptacle **13** is integrally molded in the opposite end, and two pairs of parallel, spaced-apart flanges **14**, **15** and **16**, **17** are formed on the inner surfaces of the side walls of the base member, approximately midway between the opposite ends thereof, and oriented directly opposite one another to form opposing, vertically extending channels **18** and **19**.

A combination divider and handle member **20** has a wide lower end portion **21** with opposite side edges **22** and **23** received in the channels **18** and **19** to form a dividing wall extending across the base member **11**, separating it into the opposite end portions.

As seen best in figures 2 and 3, a tapered shoulder with a downwardly facing ledge **24** is formed in each channel **18** and **19** for cooperation with an oppositely tapered shoulder having an upwardly facing ledge **25** on each of the opposite side edges of the lower portion **21** to lock the handle member and divider in place when it is inserted into the channels **18** and **19**. Thus, the base member may be easily manufactured as a one-piece unit, with the handle member being separately manufactured as a unit and then assembled to the base member.

The handle and divider member includes an elongate upstanding handle **26** for carrying the holder. Additionally, the handle is shaped and sized to receive thereover one or more rolls of toilet paper **P** for storing extra rolls.

A combined brush and jet cleaning tool **30** is supported in the cup-shaped receptacle **13** in one end of the base member **11** and comprises a head **31** having

bristles **32** projecting from one side thereof and a tapered jet-cleaning pick **33** projecting from the other side. An elongate handle **34** extends at an angle "A" from the head **31**. The angle "A" is selected so that the tool is particularly suited for using either the bristles **32** or the pick **33**. In a preferred construction, for example, the angle "A" may range from about 25° up to about 45°.

As seen in figure 8, the pick **33** includes an elongate tapered end **35** that may be inserted into the jets to clean them, and a threaded end **36** for threaded engagement in a mating opening (not shown) in an edge portion of the brush head **31**. Suitably shaped surfaces **37** may be provided for manipulating the pick **33** with a suitable tool.

If desired, a reflective surface **40**, such as a mirror, may be provided on the back of the brush head **31** to facilitate ease of use by reflecting an image of the jets so that the user can accurately position the pick when the tool is used.

A plunger **50** is supported in the end **12** of the base member **11** and comprises a generally spherically-shaped member **51** having a concavo-convex open end **52** of reduced diameter, and a depending cylindrical skirt **53** extending downwardly around the open end **52** from approximately the midpoint of the spherical member **51**. Annular flanges **54** and **55** are formed on the bottom ends of the concavo-convex section **52** and the skirt **53**, respectively, and an elongate handle **56** is attached to the upper, closed end **57** of the spherical member. The spherical member and skirt are integrally formed as one piece from any suitable material, such as rubber, commonly employed in the manufacture of plungers.

In use, the concavo-convex open end **52** of spherical member **51** is adapted to fit into and seal with various size openings, and the cylindrical skirt **53** is adapted to seal against the surface surrounding the opening to serve as a splash shield and also to form a secondary seal between the plunger and the opening of the drain which is clogged.

In a preferred embodiment, a cover **C** is placed over the base member **11** in enclosing relationship to the handle member **20**, brush **30** and plunger **50**, with only an end portion of the handle **26A** exposed through the top of the cover to permit lifting and carrying of the kit.

C L A I M S

1. A toilet accessory kit, comprising:
a holder having opposite ends defining receptacles;
a divider extending across the holder and separating the receptacles from one another;
- 5 a handle attached to the divider for carrying the holder;
a toilet brush received and supported in one of said receptacles; and
a toilet plunger received and supported in the other of said receptacles.
2. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
said handle is shaped and sized to receive and hold at least one roll of toilet paper.
3. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 2, wherein:
a removable cover is on said holder, enclosing the toilet brush and plunger.
4. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 3, wherein:
said holder comprises a base member having a bottom wall and an upstanding side wall; and
- 5 said divider is secured to said side wall.
5. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 4, wherein:
the receptacle for said brush comprises a cup-shaped member in said one end of said holder.
6. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 5, wherein:
said one end of said holder is smaller in a transverse direction than said other end.

7. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 6, wherein:
said ends of said holder are rounded and are joined to one another by straight sides.

8. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 7, wherein:
said base member, including said cup-shaped member, comprises a unitary plastic structure.

9. A toilet accessory kit as claimed in claim 8, wherein:
said divider and said handle are formed as one piece, separate from the base member, and then secured to the base member to form the holder.

10. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
said divider and said handle are formed as one piece, separate from the base member, and then secured to the base member to form the holder.

11. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 10, wherein:
the receptacle for said brush comprises a cup-shaped member in said one end of said holder.

12. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 11, wherein:
said base member, including said cup-shaped member, comprises a unitary plastic structure.

13. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
said plunger comprises a spherically shaped member having a concavo-convex open end, and a depending cylindrical skirt around the open end, said skirt attached at one end to a midportion of the spherical member and coterminous at
5 its other end with the open end of the spherically shaped member, said skirt serving as a splash shield and forming a secondary seal when in use, and said concavo-

convex open end of the spherical member adapted to fit into and seal with a range of different size openings.

14. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said brush comprises a brush head having bristles projecting from one side and an elongate narrow pick extending from the other side, said pick adapted to extend into and clean water inlet jets beneath a rim in a toilet bowl; and

5 a handle extending at an angle from the head to facilitate use of both the bristles and the pick.

15. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

the handle extends at an angle of from about 20° to about 45° relative to the head.

16. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 15, wherein:

a reflective surface is on the side of said head from which the pick projects, to enable a user to see the jets into which the pick is to be inserted during use.

17. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

said brush comprises a brush head having bristles projecting from one side and an elongate narrow pick extending from the other side, said pick adapted to extend into and clean water inlet jets beneath a rim in a toilet bowl; and

5 a handle extending at an angle from the head to facilitate use of both the bristles and the pick.

18. A toilet accessory as claimed in claim 17, wherein:

the handle extends at an angle of from about 20° to about 45° relative to the head; and

a reflective surface is on the side of said head from which the pick projects,
5 to enable a user to see the jets into which the pick is to be inserted during use.

19. A brush for cleaning toilets, comprising:

a brush head having opposite sides, bristles projecting from one side, and an elongate narrow pick projecting from the other side, said pick adapted to extend into and clean water inlet jets beneath a rim in a toilet bowl; and

5 a handle extending from the head at an angle of from about 20° to about 45° relative to the head to facilitate use of both the bristles and the pick.

20. A plunger for dislodging blockages in drains, comprising:

a spherically shaped member being a concavo-convex open end, and a depending cylindrical skirt around the open end, said skirt attached at one end to a midportion of the spherically shaped member and coterminous at its other end
5 with the open end of the spherically shaped member, said skirt serving as a splash shield and forming a secondary seal when in use, and said concavo-convex open end of the spherical member adapted to fit into and seal with a range of different size openings.

TOILET ACCESSORY KIT**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A toilet accessory kit includes a holder with receptacles at opposite ends receiving and holding a toilet brush and a toilet plunger, respectively. A divider extends across the holder to separate the receptacles from one another, and a handle extends from the divider for lifting and carrying the holder and also for storing extra rolls of toilet paper. The brush includes bristles and an elongate narrow pick, with the pick insertable into the jets beneath the rim of a toilet bowl to clean the jets. The plunger has a spherical member with a concavo-convex open end that fits various sizes of drain openings. A depending cylindrical skirt surrounds the concavo-convex open end and acts as a shield to prevent splashing and also forms a secondary seal.

[illegible]

FIG. 1.

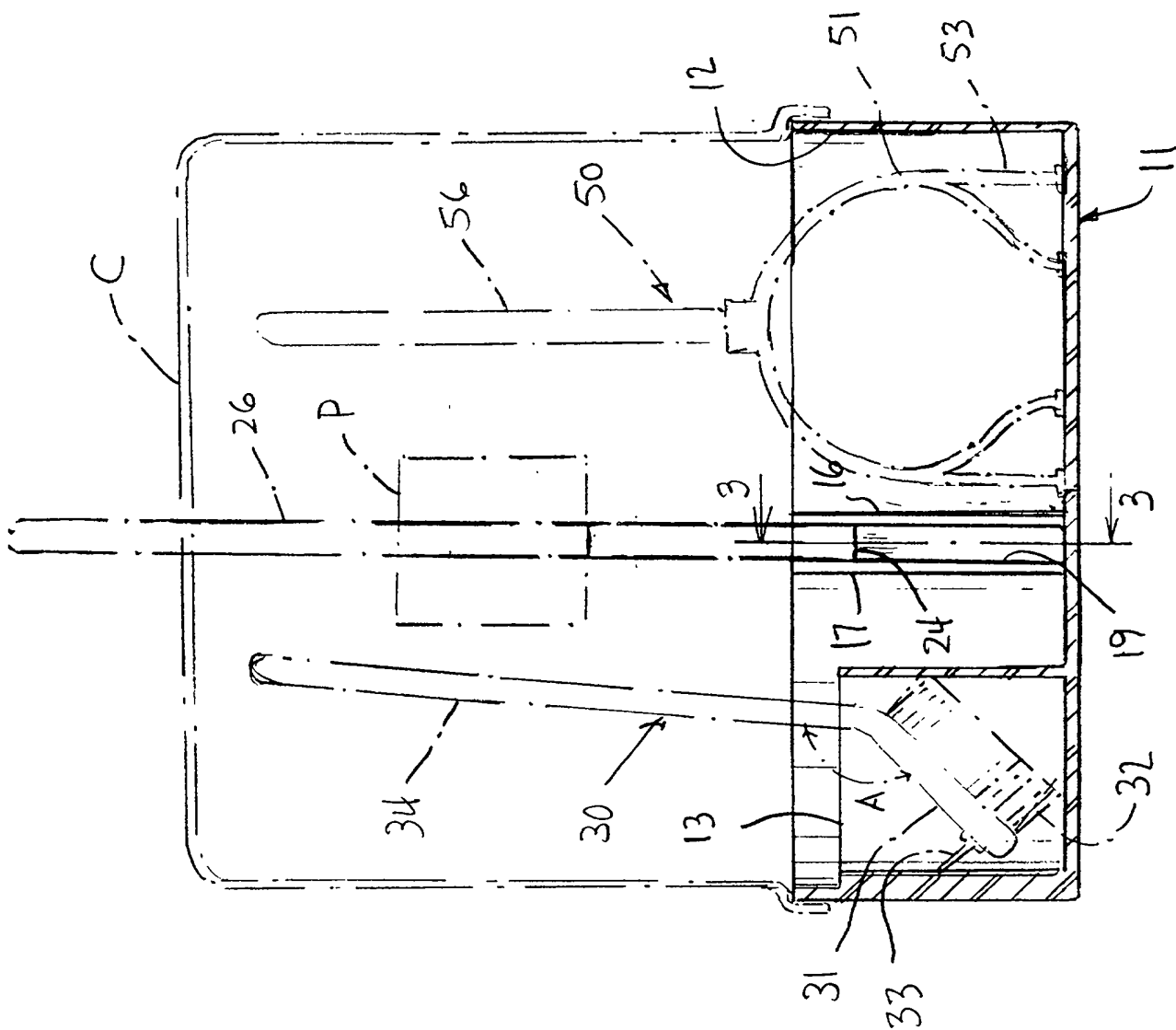


FIG. 2.

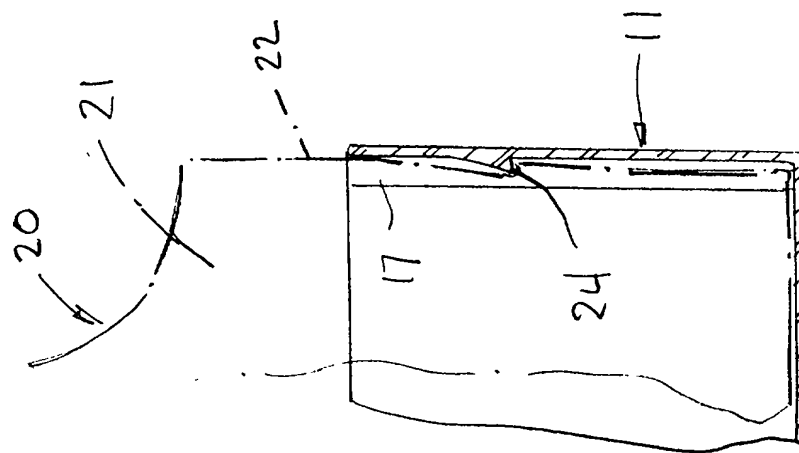


FIG. 3.

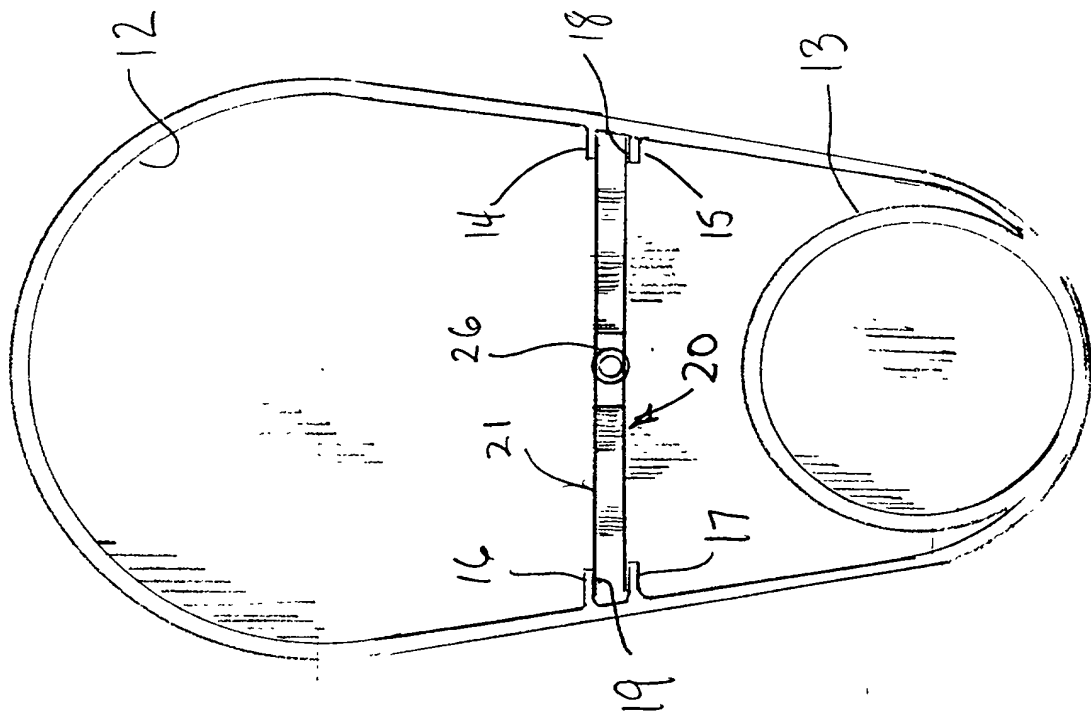


FIG. 4.

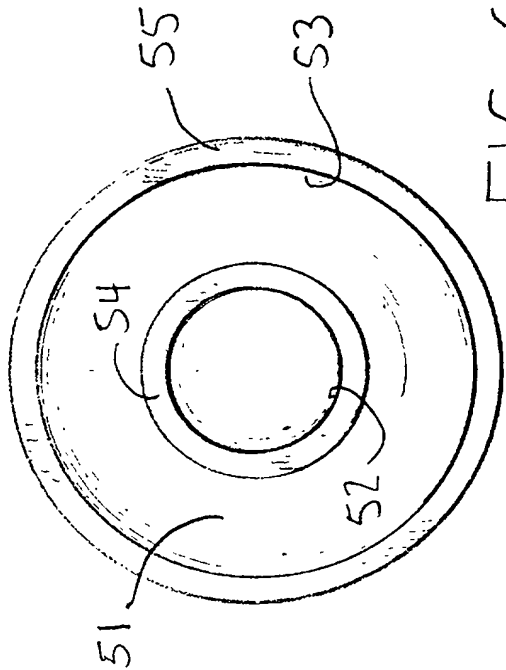


FIG. 6.

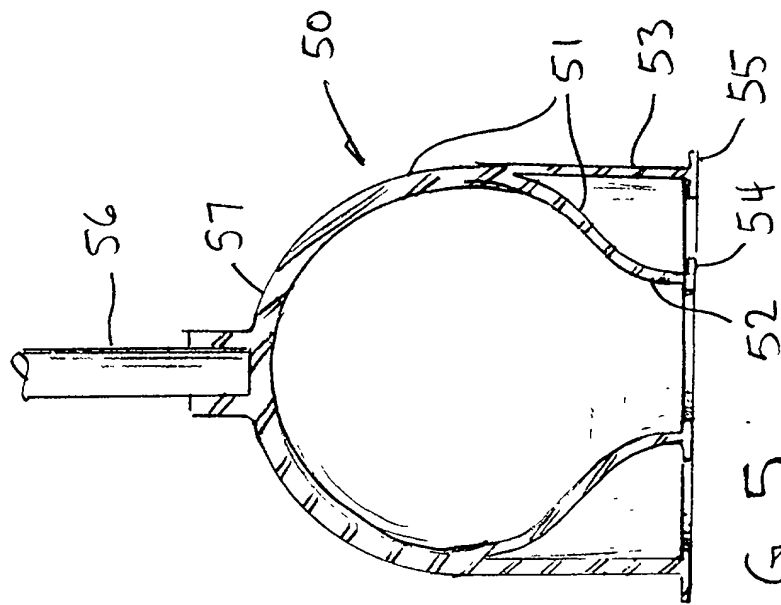
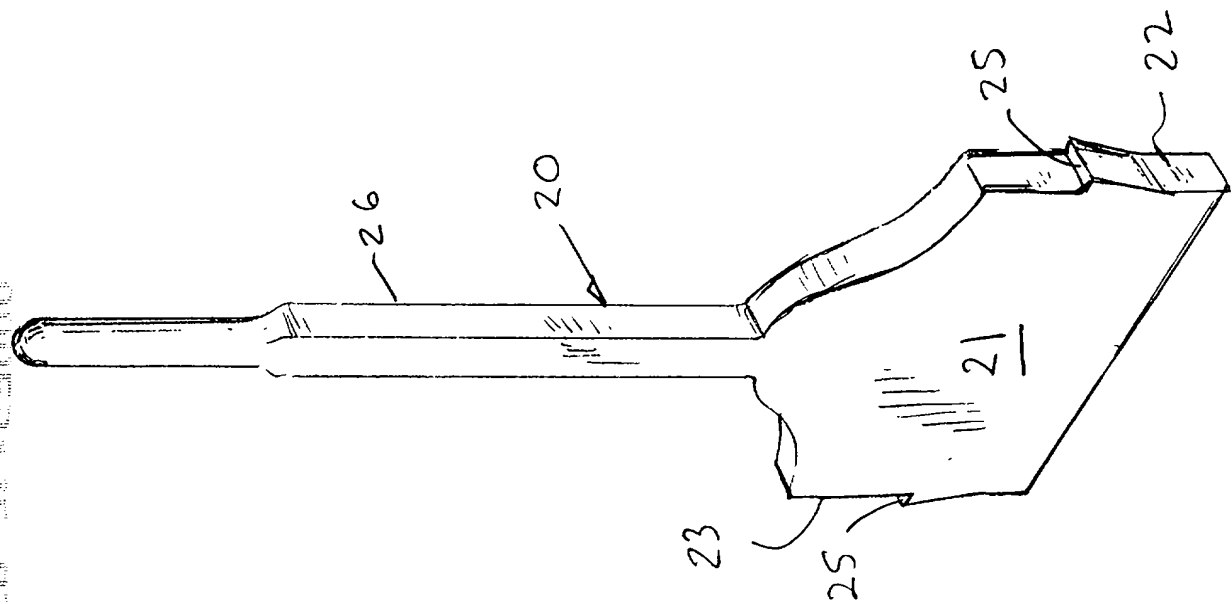
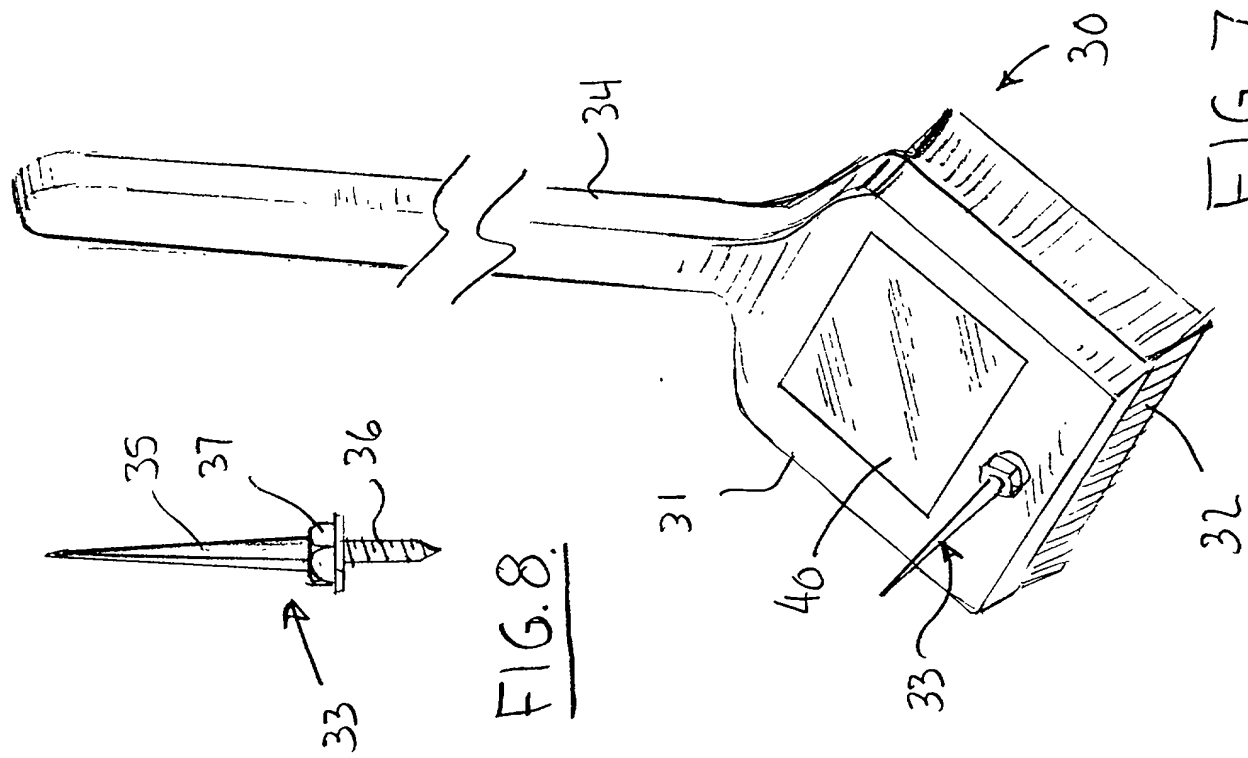


FIG. 5.



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention (Design, if applicable) entitled:

TOILET ACCESSORY KIT

the specification of which (check one):

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on:
and (if applicable) was amended on:

as Application Serial No.:

☐ was filed on:
and (if applicable) was amended on:

as International Application (PCT) No.:

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in *Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56*. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under *Title 35, United States Code §119* of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)			PRIORITY CLAIMED	
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	Yes	No
N/A				

I hereby claim the benefit under *Title 35, United States Code, §120* of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating The United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of *Title 35, United States Code, §112*, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in *Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56* which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Number	Filing Date	Status - Patented, Pending or Abandoned
N/A		


I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under *section 1001 of title 18 of the United States Code* and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: I (We) hereby appoint as my (our) attorneys, with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: **Dennis H. Lambert, Reg. No. 25,017**

I(we) authorize my(our) attorneys to accept and follow instructions from _____ regarding any matter related to the preparation, examination, grant and maintenance of this application, any continuation, continuation-in-part or divisional based thereon, and any patent resulting therefrom, until I(we) or my(our) assigns withdraw this authorization in writing.

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DATE 3-29-98	SIGNATURE 

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) BY AN INDEPENDENT INVENTOR CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS UNDER 37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)

APPLICANT OR PATENTEE: **Aasef M. Shafik**
 SERIAL OR PATENT NUMBER:
 FILED OR ISSUED: **Concurrently herewith**
 TITLE: **TOILET ACCESSORY KIT**

DOCKET #: **56733**

GROUP ART UNIT:
 EXAMINER:

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the matter described in:

- ☒ The specification filed herewith, with the title as listed above.
☐ The patent application identified above.
☐ The PCT international patent application identified above.
☐ The patent number identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ no such person, concern or organization.
☐ each such person, concern or organization listed below. **Note:** Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities (37 CFR 1.27).

<small>FULL NAME</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business Concern <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit Organization
<small>ADDRESS</small>	

<small>FULL NAME</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business Concern <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit Organization
<small>ADDRESS</small>	

☐ See attached sheet for additional person(s), concern(s) or organization(s).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine, or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which the verified statement is directed.

	<i>Inventor 1</i>	<i>Inventor 2</i>	<i>Inventor 3</i>
<i>Name</i>	Aasef M. Shafik		
<i>Date</i>	✓ 3-29-98		
<i>Signature</i>	✓ 